

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00  
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06  
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00  
OMB-01 SS-15 /105 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPE: R S GELBARD: VS  
APPROVED BY EUR/RPE: A C ALBRECHT  
EA/J: H COCHRAN  
TREASURY: D BRILL  
EA/EP: R WARNE  
TREASURY: H JUNZ  
EUR/RPE: P L LAASE

-----015824 290002Z /66

R 282013Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD INTERFUTURES PROJECT

1. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY USEOCD THAT JAPANESE (PRESUM-  
ABLY ISAMU MIYAZAKI, EPA) HAVE PROPOSED THE PRESENTATION OF  
AN ORAL PROGRESS REPORT ON INTERFUTURES AT JUNE OECD MINIS-  
TERIAL. PURPOSE WOULD BE TO DRAW HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION TO  
INTERFUTURES AND TO PROVIDE JAPANESE WITH VEHICLE FOR  
ATTEMPTING TO GET GREATER OECD ATTENTION ON LONGER-RANGE  
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ISSUES.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT MIYAZAKI AND TELL HIM  
THAT USG HAS BEEN INFORMED OF GOJ PROPOSAL BY JAPANESE OECD  
MISSION AND INTERFUTURES DIRECTOR LESOURNE. US IS WILLING TO  
SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BRIEF ORAL REPORT (PRESUMABLY GIVEN BY  
LESOURNE), WHICH WE FEEL WOULD BE USEFUL TO MINISTERS. IT

IS EVIDENT FROM OTHER WORK PROCEEDING OR BEING PLANNED IN OECD (E.G. UPDATING OF EPC MEDIUM-TERM GROWTH SCENARIO TO 1985; WORK ON STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT, ETC.) THAT THERE IS NOW GREATER INTEREST ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENTS FOR WORK ON LONGER-TERM OUTLOOK FOR THE INDUSTRIALIZED ECONOMIES AND GLOBAL ISSUES BUT THERE ARE OTHER ON-GOING MECHANISMS IN OECD TO CARRY ON WORK IN THIS AREA. HOWEVER, USG WOULD WANT STEERING COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE TEXT OF ANY

REPORT THAT LESOURNE WOULD MAKE, GIVEN THE SERIOUS CONCERNS THAT WE AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS (INCLUDING GOJ) HAVE ABOUT THE DIRECTION AND PROGRESS OF INTERFUTURES. WE ALSO THINK IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR MINISTERS ONLY TO NOTE PROGRESS REPORT STATEMENT AND NOT RPT NOT TO MAKE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS ON PROJECT.

3. AS USG REP TO STEERING COMMITTEE (TREASURY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DANIEL BRILL) HAS PREVIOUSLY STATED, US FEELS THAT POSSIBLE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING ON INTERFUTURES IS BETTER PUT OFF TO EARLY FALL FOR TWO REASONS:

-- CONTINUED LACK OF CLARITY OF PROJECT AND SLOW PROGRESS ON WORK;

-- DIFFICULTIES WITH TIMING FOR THE LATE SPRING (I.E., LARGE NUMBER OF HIGH-LEVEL INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL BE TAKING UP SENIOR OFFICIALS' ATTENTION AND TIME). DECISION ON WHETHER TO HOLD MEETING AT ALL SHOULD BE PUT OFF TO FALL AND THEN BASED ON QUALITY OF DOCUMENTATION, AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED.

4. USG HAS, IN FACT, BEEN INFORMED BY LESOURNE THAT INTERFUTURES TEAM WILL BE UNABLE TO HAVE DOCUMENTATION FOR PROPOSED SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING READY BY MAY 1 AS PROMISED AND LESOURNE HIMSELF IS CONVINCED OF NEED TO POSTPONE IT TO LATE SEPTEMBER. (FYI - IT HAD BEEN AGREED AT FEBRUARY 15-16 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING THAT MAY 1 WOULD BE CUT-OFF DATE FOR DETERMINATION OF WHETHER PREPARATIONS WERE ADEQUATE FOR JUNE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING. END FYI.) GIVEN THIS DEVELOPMENT, IT SEEMS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (IF IT WILL ULTIMATELY BE HELD AT ALL) WILL HAVE TO BE POSTPONED. SINCE U.S. IS WILLING TO HAVE INTERIM REPORT MADE AT JUNE OECD MINISTERIAL, WE WOULD LIKE TO GET MIYAZAKI'S AGREEMENT (AS CHAIRMAN OF STEERING COMMITTEE) THAT PROPOSED SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING BE CHANGED TO THE FALL. THE U.S. IS QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT LESOURNE'S ADMISSION THAT INTERFUTURES TEAM WILL FAIL TO HAVE MATERIALS READY BY MAY 1, SINCE THIS IS ANOTHER IN

LONG SERIES OF DELAYS IN THE PROJECT.

5. BASED ON THE IDEA OF HAVING SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING IN LATE SEPTEMBER, LESOURNE APPARENTLY WOULD PREFER TO HAVE NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MOVED FROM PREVIOUSLY AGREED APRIL 26-27 TO LATE MAY. JAPANESE OECD MISSION DID NOT YET HAVE MIYAZAKI'S VIEWS ON THIS PROPOSAL. USG IS NOT PLEASED ABOUT PROSPECT OF POSTPONEMENT BUT WE SEE ADVANTAGE TO CHANGING DATES IN THAT LATE MAY MEETING WOULD

PRESENT OPPORTUNITY FOR STEERING COMMITTEE TO REVIEW LESOURNE'S INTENDED INTERIM REPORT TO MINISTERS. LESOURNE EXPECTS LATE MAY MEETING WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER STEERING COMMITTEE SESSION IN LATE JULY. USG DOES NOT HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FIRM POSITION ON THIS YET (ALTHOUGH WE ARE INCLINED TO GO ALONG) AND WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CHAIRMAN MIYAZAKI'S VIEWS. (FYI - WE REALIZE THAT MIYAZAKI WILL HAVE TO BE IN PARIS MAY 29-30 FOR EPC. THEREFORE, MAY 25-26 MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR STEERING COMMITTEE.) IF STEERING COMMITTEE IS MOVED A MONTH, WE SUGGEST THAT LESOURNE ALSO ARRANGE TO POSTPONE ADVISORY PANEL FROM ITS PRESENT APRIL 20-21 DATES TO A TIME PERMITTING A JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO GROUPS FOR A HALF-DAY OR SO. LESOURNE IS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THIS PROSPECT, BUT U.S. STRONGLY BELIEVES IT WORTHWHILE, SINCE THE TWO GROUPS HAVE NOT MET BEFORE. RECENT LETTER SENT TO ALL MEMBERS OF STEERING COMMITTEE BY ADVISORY PANEL MEMBER PEHR GYLLENHAMMAR (PRESIDENT OF VOLVO) NOTED LACK OF CONTACT BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS. BRILL, IN RESPONDING TO GYLLENHAMMAR LETTER, INTENDS TO MENTION THAT U.S. WILL SUPPORT JOINT MEETING.  
COOPER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** PROGRESS REPORTS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** R S GELBARD: VS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Subject:** OECD INTERFUTURES PROJECT  
**TAGS:** EGEN, JA, OECD  
**To:** TOKYO OECD  
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